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first volume is but one in an extensive series, which it is hoped will soon be completed. The first volume carries the reader only to the year 1660, but gives him a foretaste of what is coming and a desire to read the volumes yet to appear. Mr. Channing says that in treating his subject the word "history" is understood in its larger sense as denoting not merely the annals of the past, but as descriptive of the development of the American people from the inception of the colonizing enterprises which resulted in the foundation of the thirteen original states and the formation of the Federal Union. He says that his guiding idea is "to view the subject as a record of evolution and to trace the growth of the nation from the standpoint of that which preceded rather than that which followed." He tries to see "in the annals of the past the story of the living forces." The standpoint, therefore, of the work is different from that of others which have appeared, and will therefore supply a need. His work is evidently one of a student and not that of any one who merely collects and records undigested facts. To the Virginian the chapters on the Colony of Virginia and the one on the Old Dominion will prove of intense interest.

THE AMERICAN STATE REPORTS. Containing the Cases of General Value and Authority Subsequent to those contained in the "American Decisions" and the "American Reports," decided in the Courts of Last Resort of the several States. Selected, Reported and Annotated by A. C. Freeman. Volume 102. Bancroft-Whitney Company, Law Publishers and Law Booksellers. San Francisco: 1905

This volume will prove of special interest to Virginia lawyers on account of the notes appended to a number of Virginia cases selected from 102 Va. *Zurle v. Southern Railway*, 102 Va. 17, has appended to it a very extensive note of twenty odd pages on "The uses for which the power of eminent domain cannot be exercised." The other Virginia cases reported and annotated are: *Big Stone Gap Iron Co. v. Ketron*, 102 Va. 23, 102 Am. St. Rep. 839; *Headrick v. McDowell* 102 Va. 124, 102 Am. St. Rep. 843; *Va. Fire and Marine Insurance Co. v. Richmond Mica Co.*, 102 Va. 429, 102 Am. St. Rep. 846; *Old Dominion Steamship Co. v. Commonwealth*, 102 Va. 576, 102 Am. St. Rep. 855; *Colin v. Wellford*, 102 Va. 581, 102 Am. St. Rep. 859; and *Taylor v. Commonwealth*, 102 Va. 759, 102 Am. St. Rep. 865.

Mr. Freeman's admirable monographic notes are a never ending source of comfort to the lawyer in search of an intelligent discussion of the points involved in his case. Mr. Freeman seems to have a keen eye for detecting new applications of the principles of law and of distinguishing authorities which are apparently but not really at variance. Among the important notes contained in the volume are those on Exemption of Wages, Salaries and Earnings; What Amounts to a Contract for the sale of land within the meaning of the Statute of Frauds; Conditions Precedent in Deeds and Wills; Abandonment of Homestead; Powers and Liabilities of School Teachers in Relation to Pupils; Warranties of Quality in Sales; Power of Courts to create and enforce Liens to secure the payment of Alimony; and Acknowledgment or New Promise to suspend the Running or Remove the Bar of the Statute of Limitations.